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**Environment Department Cites City of Albuquerque for
Solid Waste Violations**

(Santa Fe, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has issued a Field Compliance Order to the City of Albuquerque's Solid Waste Management Department (City) for violations of the New Mexico Solid Waste Act and the New Mexico Solid Waste Management Regulations. .

The Order followed a newspaper photograph and caption, which appeared in the July 1st edition of an Albuquerque newspaper reporting that the City had opened the newly renovated Montessa Park Convenience Center. The New Mexico Solid Waste Management Regulations require that new or modified solid waste facilities undergo and pass a construction completeness and permit compliance inspection before they are authorized to operate.

As a result of the article, NMED inspected the facility and identified four alleged violations. Two of the violations could have possibly delayed the opening until they were corrected. Violations included the improper storage of unlabeled drums of an oily liquid and deficiencies in the facility's emergency contingency plan.

The Order assesses a civil penalty of \$1,000. The City is required to correct all violations by July 9, 2003, and pay the penalty or request a hearing by August 5, 2003.

For additional information, please contact Charles A. Hules, Enforcement Section Manager, Solid Waste Bureau, NMED, at (505) 827-2924, or Jon Goldstein, NMED Communications Director, at (505) 827-0314.

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